

Prairie Gazette

The Official Publication of the  Lakewood Historical Society

FALL 2013

**The Lakewood
PLAYHOUSE**
celebrates
75
YEARS
of
Community
THEATER!

The Lakewood Playhouse, located in the heart of the city, celebrates 75 years of performances this season, with over 450 plays and musicals and one million volunteer hours contributing to the theater's success.

Nearly five times the age of the City of Lakewood, the Playhouse first opened in 1938 and has evolved with the city since its incorporation in 1996. An intimate theater seating 167 audience members, the Lakewood Playhouse is the oldest "black box" theater in Washington State. The black box theatre environment concentrates on the theatrical performances with minimal sets and parallels the Playhouse's focus on community.

"Theatre is created through the relationship between performers and their audience. Theatre is like a family and we look forward to many more generations of designers, actors, directors and audience members who will join ours for years to come," says

Lakewood Playhouse Managing Artistic Director, **John Munn**. 
"We can't wait to share this momentous anniversary and 75th season with the community."



Over the last 75 years, the Playhouse has flourished due to the Lakewood community's involvement and love of the performing arts with volunteers donating over one million hours as designers, actors, directors and front of the house staff. Additionally, the Playhouse offers an education program to build confidence and theatrical skills. More than 4,500 children and young adults have graduated from the program over the last 15 years.



The 75th anniversary celebration was kicked off Friday, September 13th. All of the pre-performance evening festivities were free and included a ribbon cutting with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce with special guests Deputy Mayor **Jason Whalen**, City Councilwoman **Marie Barth** and newly hired City Manager, **John Caulfield** and a proclamation of "Lakewood Playhouse Day" from the City of Lakewood, plus a silent auction and wine and cheese reception generously donated by 21 Cellars Wine; hors d'oeuvres by Carr's Restaurant.

The 75th anniversary celebration was kicked off Friday, September 13th. All of the pre-performance evening festivities were free and included a ribbon cutting with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce with special guests Deputy Mayor **Jason Whalen**, City Councilwoman **Marie Barth** and newly hired City Manager, **John Caulfield** and a proclamation of

What's Inside:

President's Message.....	2
Financial Statement.....	2
Return of the "Party Boat".....	3
First Night Memories.....	5
Welcoming Home the Raiders.....	6
Righting a Grave Wrong.....	7
97 Years Ago in Lake City.....	8
History of Holroyd.....	9
Passing History's Torch.....	9
Donors & Contributors.....	10
NEW! Collections Chronicle.....	11
A Milestone Birthday.....	11
Programs & Events.....	12

See THEATER, page 4



Lakewood Historical Society

contact@lakewoodhistorical.org

President

Becky Huber • 253-582-8682

Vice President

Glen Spieth • 253-584-3930

Secretary

Sue Scott • 253-588-6354

Treasurer

Gary Fowler • 253-584-3958

Directors

Kristin Davis
LTG (Ret) Bill Harrison
Kris Kauffman
Barbara Lord Nelson
Lee Olson
Barbara Scott
Jim Taylor

Director Emeritus

Cyrus Happy III

Museum Consultants

Mary Bowlby
Meg Justus
Chuck Mathias

PRAIRIE GAZETTE

Prairie Gazette is the official publication of the Lakewood Historical Society. The newsletter is published four times a year. Distribution is directly to members and available at the Lakewood History Museum, 6211 Mt Tacoma Drive SW, Lakewood, WA 98499. Phone: 253-682-3480

The staff of Prairie Gazette actively encourages input from the Society's members as well as the general public regarding story ideas of any other aspects of this newsletter, and the Lakewood Historical Society.

Content of this publication is copyright protected by the Society and/or the authors and artists.

MEETINGS

The Lakewood Historical Society formed in 1998 to preserve and share Lakewood's rich history through programs, displays and publications. The Society offers frequent programs on topics of historical interest. Most programs are free and open to the public. Visit us on Facebook or our website for information on events and activities:

www.LakewoodHistorical.org

President's Message

Can you believe the summer we had this year! I actually grew tomatoes that fully ripened for the first time. Even though the impatiens have faded with the cooler weather, I have vibrant yellow mums ready to be planted.

We have had a very busy summer in the Society as well. Lots of outreach opportunities. I'd like to thank all of our volunteers for their hard work in promoting the Society and Museum. We especially enjoyed being at the City of Lakewood's Farmers Market. We will definitely do it again next year.

Because we didn't have a big fund raising event this summer, we tried to continue with monthly programs but attendance was down due to everyone's busy schedules. See the back page of the newsletter for the rest of this year's schedule. Let us know if you have any program topics you'd like presented. At this time plans for a signature event this year have not been made.

Please be sure to put November 19th on your calendar. Not only will we be having our annual recognition of veterans, we have added some special elements to the Annual Meeting to celebrate our 15th Anniversary of the Society. **Jackie Jones-Hook**, the Executive Director of the Buffalo Soldier Museum in Tacoma, WA, will share their rich legacy and display artifacts collected by her father, William Jones. For the Annual Meeting we will elect Society officers and directors, have a brief overview of the past year's accomplishments and

honor volunteers who have made significant contributions to the Society.

Recently, the Board has been discussing the feasibility of moving to a larger museum space. We have been at our current location for 7 years and we are "busting at the seams".

There is lack of adequate storage space for our growing collection; potentially wonderful exhibits using donated artifacts are unable to be displayed; there is no wall space to recognize volunteers, community partners and business sponsors; the reference library is limited to one bookcase in the office that has limited access to visitors and there is such little open floor space that committee meetings are set up in the middle of exhibit areas. All could be managed effectively if we expanded into a 5-6,000 sq ft space.

This tripling of our museum will require a much larger financial base of support than we currently have. Therefore, we want you to respond to our Annual Museum Fund campaign. Not only do we want you to make a donation to the best of your ability, we want you to JOIN THE SOCIETY if you are not already a member. This purposeful action affords you the privilege to be a part of the growth we are planning. You will have the unique opportunity to be an integral part of something great.

I am forever grateful for your loyalty and support.

Becky Huber

LAKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Opening Cash on Hand - 01/01/2013	\$ 11,538.16
Income – Jan thru August	\$ 56,585.40
Expenses – Jan thru August	\$ 47,395.74
Closing Cash on Hand - 08/31/2013	\$ 20,727.82



El Primero Returns to Tacoma

By Nancy Covert

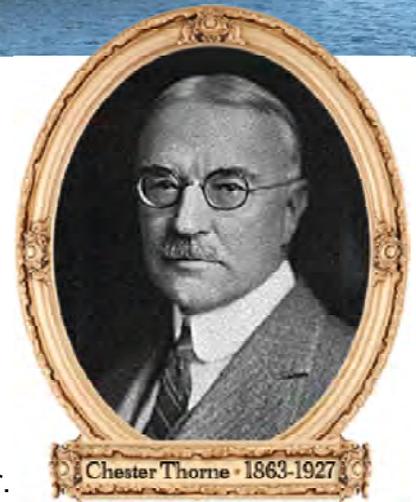
A sleek, 130-ft yacht, seen frequently in Commencement Bay in the early 1900s, returned to lower Puget Sound as part of the 2013 Tacoma Maritime Fest held in August.

was celebrated by over 100 guests at the home of **Rich** and **Connie Hildahl** in Longbranch, WA on the Key Peninsula along Filucy Bay.

It was announced at the Tacoma Historical Society's September meeting that *El Primero* will be wintering in Tacoma and the owner may be keeping the yacht in Tacoma indefinitely as a potential tour boat. A cruise may be one of the auction items for THS's annual Destiny Dinner.

Built in 1893 in San Francisco, *El Primero* first came to Tacoma in 1906 when **Chester Thorne** (who had Thornewood Castle on American Lake built in 1911) purchased the vessel from San Franciscan Edward Hopkins.

Five years later, ownership in the iron-clad steam vessel was signed over to Sam Perkins, *Tacoma Daily Ledger* Publisher. Over time, the yacht became known as "Tacoma's Party Boat."



Owner Christian Lint (right) and Captain TJ



Rich Hildahl and author Nancy Covert

Those “First Night” Memories

Written by Fran Aden
Printed in *The Suburban Times*
November 18, 1965

There have been many “First Nights” for the Lakewood Players in the past 25 years, but none had the glamour and excitement of opening *Taming of the Shrew* in the Lakewood Players’ new theatre.

In 1939 Mrs. Ray Thompson and Mrs. Joseph Lanser conceived the idea of bringing live theater to the Lakes District. In those days almost the only commercial area on the “Prairie” was the Lakewood Center, which included the drug store, a few shops and the Lakewood Movie Theatre. Mrs. Burton James of the Repertory Theatre in Seattle agreed to come to Lakewood and conduct a weekly course in theater art to some 30 people.

Opening night is a culmination of a dream born in hearts of drama minded Lakewoodites. On April 24, 1941 they presented their first play, *Pomeroy’s Past*, as a one-night-stand on the stage of the Lakewood Theatre. The roster of names associated with that first production included Lillian Thompson, Peg Lanser, Norton Clapp, Carlin Aden, Martha Anthony, Alberta Johnson, Mary and Harry Johnson and their daughter Mary, Lee Johnson, Deanie and Frank Gillette, Tom Dutkovich, Ed Carlozian and Pearl Rehbeck.

These people became the nucleus of the Lakewood Community Players, Inc. Their first meeting was held in the loft of the Little Church on the Prairie to organize and accept a constitution. Others joined—Ed Johnson, Mona Mock, Ella and Harold Enger, Marion and Perry Crothers, Maggie Mace, Wyn McMahon, Janice Owens, Fred

and Del Schwab, Patty and Allen Forsythe.

The constitution caused some trouble too. Norton Clapp wanted to be specific about the clause concerning expulsion for members. It was agreed that this should be “for unbearable conduct over an extended period of time.” That satisfied Norton, and then it was omitted altogether as a condition only remotely related to drama lovers. But the dream of their own playhouse lived on.

The Players first home was the DeKoven Inn. It was in those days that Allen Forsythe used to fly in from far off places, dump his flying togs in the wings and walk on as if he had been there since 4:30.

And then there was John Campeau who took the lead in *Petticoat Fever*—he was stationed at Ft Lewis—at the same time he was star of a movie at the Lakewood Theatre. For that run, the chief job of the Players’ janitor was hauling wheelbarrow loads of swooning teenagers to the compost heap.

And then there was the night the lights went out. But the audience waited while candles were lit and the play went on.

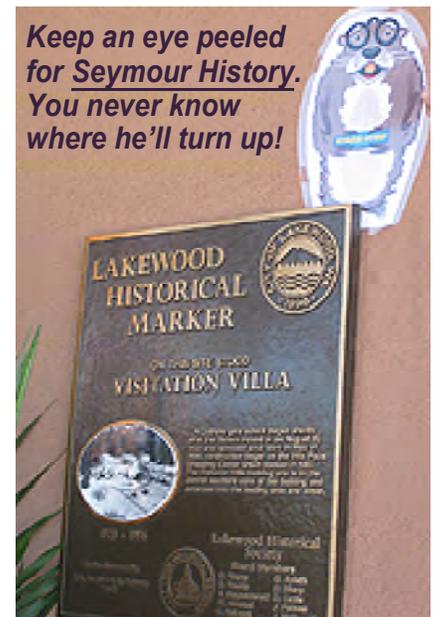
The pressures of war forced the Players to suspend activities, but the dream was not forgotten.

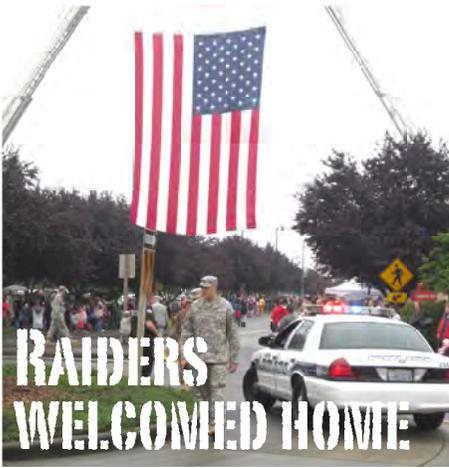
In the spring of 1945, the Players met again, this time in the basement of the Lakewood Colonial Center. Reorganization took place and plays, carnivals, raffles and more plays became the order of the year.

Enthusiastic audience members became Lakewood Players actors, producers, and back stage, box office and publicity

crews. Membership grew. Frank Soares, Fran and Ed Burkhalter, Vi and Verge Groff, Gladys Tessier, Lee Fenton, Bill Lemon, Henry Hoskins, Lawrence Skinner, Glen and Cass Shook, Lee and Margaret Merrill, Phil Jacobs, Betty Day, Aldean Hawk, Les Houde, Bob and Jean Schmid, John Stewart, Tommy Thompson, Rose and Tom Murphy, Charles Mann, the Tom Martins, Dr. Francis Smith, Sammie Fogg, Ralph and Florence Davison, Helen and Earl Davison, Marcie and Dick Norden, Mary Jean Finnigan, Paul and Virginia Shellenbarger, Wally and Louise Hager, Barbara Hall, Ed Moline, Helen and Don Dooley, Kern Meade, Ted Baker, Pat and Jim Reynolds, Bob Reynolds, Ted McCullough—all joined.

Those were the days of “Suds in Your Eye” when the players had a fence made entirely of beer cans. Although the cans were donated by a local brewery, some of the actors grumbled because they arrived empty (the cans that is.) You can’t please everyone.





By Becky Huber

On Sunday, September 15th, the City of Lakewood gave an old fashioned heroes' homecoming to the **Raiders**, the 4th Stryker Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division, who had returned in July from their most recent 9 month deployment to Afghanistan.

The celebration started with a real "main street" parade of over 2,000 soldiers and a dozen of their Stryker vehicles or "trucks". The companies of soldiers were



followed by a large contingent of Patriot Guard Riders on motorcycles and vehicles from West Pierce Fire and Rescue and

Lakewood Police Department.

Following the parade, a grand stand filled with community leaders, military representatives and Gold Star families assembled in front of the soldiers in formation on the site of the recently demolished Gottschalks Department Store. The official "welcome home" was extended by **Mayor Don Anderson** and **Congressman Denny Heck**.

The 4-2 Brigade has had a formal partnership as a "Community Connector" with the City of



Lakewood since 2006 and has seen them deploy three times. Each time, community organizations have kept in touch with e-mails, cards and care packages to the individual units. They have grieved the loss of 54 of their soldiers and celebrated their returns from deployments.

The Lakewood Historical Society

has been fortunate to have kept in touch with their assigned unit, the 472nd Signal Company, since 2009. We have seen them through two different commanders and two different deployments. Their soldiers have played a huge role in the Society's major fund raising events for the last two years.

Colonel Michael Getchell, commander of the 4-2, accepted the thanks of a grateful community. He expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the special

relationship that has developed with the City and the support everyone has extended to the soldiers and their families. The parade and ceremony was especially timely because of the recent announcement that the Brigade will be inactivated starting next year.

The celebration continued in the



A GRAVE WRONG, RIGHTED AT LAST



A 1,500 lb. headstone that had been placed at the burial site of **William Wallace**, both the first Territorial Governor of Idaho, and Steilacoom's first mayor (1871-1879), was restored at the historic cemetery at Western State Hospital. Premier Monument of Tacoma repaired the monument after it had been vandalized.

The Town of Steilacoom paid for the restoration. The headstone had originally been placed in 1951 by members of Steilacoom Masonic Lodge No. 2, of which Wallace had been Master.

Historic re-enactor **David Leroy** (former Lt. Governor of Idaho) portrayed Wallace in April at the Living History Day at Fort Steilacoom. His presentation, done in the style of Wallace having just returned from Washington, D. C., was most convincing. Steilacoom's current mayor, **Ron Lucas**, met "Mr. Wallace" that afternoon (below).



afternoon. A P-A-R-T-Y of major proportions was held in Fort Steilacoom Park on the site of the annual SummerFEST, put on by the City's Parks and Recreation Department. It included a first time ever beer garden, live entertainment on a stage decorated with thousands of yellow flowers, free pizza supplied by Little Caesar's and sponsored by AUSA, and static displays of military and city vehicles.

Numerous community organizations had booths, many offering free items, as a way of saying "Thank You" to our military.

This was a day that the residents of the City of Lakewood and the soldiers of the Brigade will never forget no matter what the future holds.



“Structure Well Equipped and Modern—Good Program Given”

On an early autumn evening in 1916 about 200 patrons of the Lake City School District gathered for dedication ceremonies of their new school building and escorted visitors through the splendid modern structure.

Cost of the new building? \$13,000.

“Residents are truly proud of the new home of knowledge, for it is one of the finest country schools on the Pacific Coast, comprising as it does an auditorium, gymnasium, shower baths, manual training and domestic science departments,” according to the *Tacoma Daily Ledger* reporter who covered the event.

Other excerpts from the *Ledger’s* report:

The lighting arrangement is perfect and by night, gas is used as an illuminant. The auditorium, especially constructed for neighborhood gathering and amateur performances, was well filled last night.

District board of directors included W.E. Morris, chairman; Alice B. Woodroffe and Andrew Lowe. Mr. Morris was the chairman of the dedicatory exercises.

The audience sang “America” with gusto and baptized the new school house with the national hymn. Mr. Morris welcomed the visitors and introduced the speakers.

Miss Fern Jones, teacher of the younger pupils, teaches them something additional to the three R’s, for a number of them did a shoemaker’s dance. W. C. Bertram of Tacoma sang a Scotch song and Miss Jessie Lowe danced a Highland dance, the “Seann Triubbas,” and her father demonstrated that he is capable of being musical as well as directing the affairs of the district. He played the pipes as an accompaniment, giving a true Caledonian tang to the number.

E.E. Crook, assistant superintendent of the Tacoma schools, congratulated the residents of the district on their enterprise in providing such an institution for the betterment of their children.

Judge Fremont Campbell contrasted educational advantages in that locality now to a quarter of a century ago, when he was raising his family there.

“The boys and the girls of today are brighter than they were in that day, and they ought to be, for they have superior facilities for gaining knowledge. This is a school of today and expresses the ideals of the present.”

Miss Isabel Pratt is principal of the school, and her students sang a song under her direction and with her accompaniment.

“We may bring forth everything Washington can produce, but if we do not bring forth citizens who can master these valleys and conquer the mountains, we have failed,” said Dr. E. H. Todd, president of the College of Puget Sound. “Character building is what this school is for, and I think that the training of men to be trusted is all important.”

“Creation of ideals is what we want. Some time in the past some man saw this school building in his brain. Then he carried the message to others and he carried the message to others, and finally we see the reality. But that man had to have the ideal before this structure could be. We must teach the child to think, and then we have ideals. Let us offer a silent prayer that God will be with you in your work every day.”

Information provided by Peggy Bal



What do YOU know about Lakewood?

When was the City of Lakewood officially established?

How many high schools are in the Clover Park School District? Name them.

Lakewood Community Center was Lakewood’s first shopping center. When was it built?

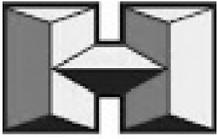
Where was the Lakewood Ice Arena?

Where was the Tacoma Speedway? Can you name some famous race car drivers who competed there?

The Lakewood Towne Center was built on the site of what school?

When did Lakewood host its first Farmers Market? When did the Market open for 2013?

Answers to these questions and more can be found at the Lakewood Historical Museum, located in the Colonial Center, 6211 Mt. Tacoma Dr. SW.



Holroyd's—In business since 1906

By Nancy Covert

Remains from the mile-thick glacier about 14,000 years ago, according to geologists, created about a dozen lakes that gave Lakewood its name. It also provided materials for many industries, such as Holroyd's—a long-time Lakewood business.

According to the company history published in 2006, Canadian immigrant (by way of England) **Arthur Holroyd** established his company in the late 1800s, several years after beginning a hauling company in McKenna.

Like many young men of his era, Holroyd came to the “City of Destiny” that Allen C. Mason and others were promoting, and

decided the time was right to get into the business of selling building products.

Beginning with salvaged ballast from Belgian ships, he soon was selling sand, gravel, concrete pipes, cement blocks, stucco and plaster. Soon he acquired property south of Tacoma in Lakewood, and was on his way to achieving a dream that would have been impossible to him in his native England.

Soon his children, Alma Marie and James Arthur, joined their father, working for the company. Their children and grandchildren eventually joined the family business.

Like many businesses, though, they faced challenges—such as a time in the 1960s when neigh-

bors blocked access to a Holroyd site during a property dispute.

Holroyd hired a helicopter to transport raw materials in boxes to be washed, a practice they continued until the dispute was resolved.

A major triumph for the company took place in 1974 when, for nine days, Holroyd mixer trucks delivered concrete for the pour that resulted in the Tacoma grain elevators that stand along the Schuster Parkway.

According to Holroyd's centennial magazine article, “over the years the company has achieved a balance that allowed us to survive.”

“We're very fortunate that way,” said **Steve Nielsen**, company president.

Passing the Torch: Lighting an appreciation for local history

by Nancy Covert

What's the most valuable legacy you can pass on to the next generation?

Money? Jewelry? Paintings?

An appreciation for History!

That's **B O R I N G !**

Not true, either.

Usually it's not until about a decade after students have completed their formal education (K-12) that they gain an appreciation and understanding for HISTORY. Thanks to mentors, such as YOU, who take time to share what they know about the past, that interest may occur sooner.

Here in Lakewood, the Historical Society hopes to begin a “Passing the Torch” program this fall, working with teachers and students to help them better understand the rich legacy of this community. While the City of Lakewood was formally created into a City in 1996, Lakewood's history began long before American settlers homesteaded on the shores of area lakes.

Anyone who's followed the stories published in the ***Prairie Gazette*** since the Society was established knows about the Visitation Villa School (on the site of Lakewood Towne Center), or the Colonial Center that was established in 1937. Then, there's the Tacoma Speedway—once located where Clover Park Technical College is situated. How about Lakewood Library's history—and the Story about the **BIG ONE**? There's also the Ice Arena.

These are just a few of the many interesting stories to share (and perhaps, even learn yourself!) when you work with Clover Park School District students.

High school students will be the primary age group approached this year to solicit as volunteers. Based on interest and experience they will be assigned one of a variety of short term projects with an adult mentor to include exhibit development, program or event planning and researching.

LHS members and supporters with a Passion for History, and a desire to be USEFUL (retirees and former teachers) are encouraged to contact the Lakewood History Museum at 253-682-3480 or Becky Huber at 582-8682 or craftyhubers@comcast.net to volunteer.

Lakewood Historical Society and Museum

2013 Museum Fund Contributors

Jan. 1st thru Sept. 20th

Thank You, Museum Fund Donors and Sponsors

2013 Goal: \$25,000 for Operations, Education, Exhibits, Programs and Community Outreach

Actual to date: \$16,376 from 106 generous donors and sponsors

City of Lakewood Lodging Tax helps support the Lakewood History Museum displays and exhibits as well as Society community outreach, promotions and educational programs.

SPONSORS & BUSINESS MEMBERS

B&B Glass
Better Properties Real Estate
Carr's Restaurant
DuPont Historical Society
Gramor Development WA
Harborstone Credit Union
Humphrey Properties
Interlaaken Realty
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Lakewood Ford
Lakewold Gardens
Lakewood Gallery & Framing
Lakewood Hardware
LeMay Pierce County Refuse
Les Schwab Tire Center
Mandarin Gallery
Murray Pacific Corp
Patriots Landing
Paktek Inc
Phil Raschke KLAY Radio
The Suburban Times
Todd Insurance Agency
Michael and Mary Jo Tucci

PREMIER - \$1,000 or more
The Dimmer Family Foundation
LTG William (Bill) Harrison (Ret)
The Helen and John Vogt Foundation

PATRON - \$500 to \$999
Mike & Sue Raney / Beverley Bills
John and Becky Huber
Carol and Jim Moreno

PARTNER - \$200 to \$499
Charlie Eckstrom
Carol Else
Gary and Karen Fowler
Horace F. Gamas
Clyde Kalahan
Carol and Jim Moreno
Henry Schatz
Glen and Marlene Spieth
Raye Staples
David and Barbara Young

ASSOCIATE - \$100 to \$199
Allan and Jeanne Emmons
Scott Gamas and Joey Pelgrim
William L. Jackson
Denny and Diana Kirby
Edward C. Klopping III
Col Karl and Sue Lorenz
Florence March
Mary Lou and Dave Peterson
Robin and Linda Rego
Joan E. Shalikashvili
Jim Taylor
Cindy Thompson
Joan Walston

CONTRIBUTORS
Bob and Alice Anderson
Bob and Marilyn Arndt
Sally Atwood
Virginia Brinsfield
Joe and Patty Candiotta
Susan C. Coulter
Ron and Christine Cronk
James and Linda Curley
Rhona Diehl
Jim and Lila Early
Tal and Molly Edman
Susan B. Fields
Pearl (Billie) Finley

Shawn P. Gagnon
Don and Norma Guenthoer
Joe and Carolyn Ghilarducci
Clarence Glasse
Mark and Phyllis Griggs
Mr. & Mrs Jordon Harris
Jonathan and Janis Hawkes
Donald P. Hirte
Larry and Natalie Humphrey
Joann Johnson
Brad Jones
Karen S. Lebeter
James Manning
Tim Marsh
Eugene Maun
David McDonald
Elizabeth McGowan
David and Kathryn Meyer
Mary Moss
John Mounts
Walter and Cindy Neary
Jeanne Nickerl
Martin North
Richard and Maria Rabisa
Dottie Rider
Robert and Scotty Russ
John Schrieber
Louise Schumock
Mary Lou Sclair
Sue Scott
Ruth Stevick & Lynn Gracey
Dugald and Norita Stewart
Darrel Stutesman
Bob and Candy Tingstad
Linda VanDyk
Ken and Susan Walker
Barbara P. Werschkul
Carole and Ted Wier
Billie R. Willis
Harriet R. Wolverton

Memorial gifts in Honor of:
Brian C. Davis
by Kristin E. Davis

Honorary contributions:
Rose Murphy Endowment
"Keep Lakewood Beautiful"
by Robert Warfield

COLLECTIONS CHRONICLE

by Barbara G. Scott, Chairman
Collections Committee



Welcome to a new column about the wonderful gifts that have been given and are being given to the Lakewood History Museum. Each gift officially added to our collections helps the Museum preserve our past and keeps our Lakewood story alive and available to present and future residents. It is the hope that this column will provide an ongoing report of the activities of the museum's Collections Committee as we accept and process your precious gifts.

Each gift presented to the Museum goes through an assessment process by the Collections Committee prior to its official addition to our collections as approved by the Lakewood History Museum's Board of Directors.

That assessment by the Collections Committee is governed by a Collections Development Policy developed by the museum's Board of Directors. This policy spells out the criteria to be used in evaluating each gift entrusted to us by our supporters.

This assessment begins when a person brings a gift to the Museum. After having made the first difficult decision to part with the treasured object or objects, the second decision about this gift is also made by the donor. At the time the gift is brought into the museum, the staff person on duty asks the person to fill out a Temporary Custody Form.

In addition to briefly describing the gift that is being presented, and providing us with the name, address and phone number of

the donor (to allow us to contact the donor if we have questions about the history of the item and to officially thank the donor with a letter), there is a critical question on this form to which the donor should give serious thought. That question is:

If the museum should decide that it cannot use your gift, do you wish to have it returned to you?
Yes ___ No ___

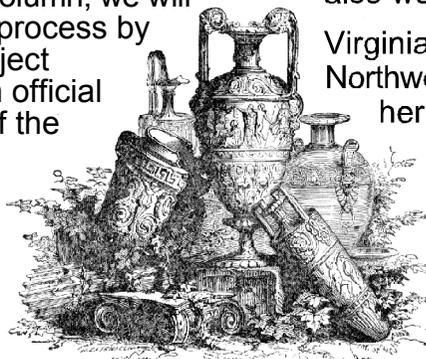
If the donor determines that they wish to have the gift returned, a member of the Collections Committee will contact the donor and arrange to return the object/objects to him/her. However, if the donor does not wish to have gift returned, it becomes the responsibility of the Collections Committee to find a future home for the item in question.



When our evaluation of an item results in the reluctant decision that the

treasured item under review does not help the Museum advance its educational mission, the decision we often make—and the decision that makes us the happiest—is to offer the item in question to one of our neighboring museums. If the staff of that museum agrees that the item in question will indeed help that museum tell its story, a member of the Collections Committee arranges for the safe transfer of the object.

In our next column, we will explore the process by which an object becomes an official accession of the Lakewood History Museum.



Tillicum Woman Marks Milestone Birthday

By Nancy Covert

Virginia Maas of Tillicum marked her centennial birthday in August.



It was her wish to keep the occasion "low key."

A life-long resident of the community founded two years before she was born, the regal-looking, spry woman marked the occasion by greeting a few friends and enjoying the greeting cards and floral arrangements that were delivered to her home.

Jim Taylor, representing the Tillicum Neighborhood Association, presented a card signed by Neighborhood members and a commemorative City of Lakewood Coin. **Christina Klas** served as "official photographer" for the occasion. Virginia's brother, **Gordon**, (15 years younger) and his wife, **Janelle**, also were there.

Virginia, who moved to the Northwest in the early 1920s with her parents from New Hampshire, married **John Maas**, son of their next-door neighbor in their Woodbrook neighborhood.



Lakewood Historical Society
P.O. Box 98014
Lakewood, WA 98496

Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Tacoma, WA
Permit #356

Programs and Events, Fall 2013

Tues, October 8, 5:30-7:30 pm. College, Career and Service Fair and Open House. Clover Park High School, 11023 Gravelly Lake Dr SW, Lakewood. Annual event open to students, families and the general public. Society will have a table to solicit high school student volunteers for projects.

Tues, October 15, 7-9 pm. *The Culture and Heritage of the Nisqually Indian Tribe.* The culture and heritage of one the major Indian tribes in the South Puget Sound will be presented by tribal representatives. **Free and open to the public.** Refreshments served.

October 16, 4:30-7 pm, Boo Bash Tradeshow. Great American Casino, 10115 South Tacoma Way, Lakewood; annual event sponsored by Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. Come dressed in costume. **Free food.** Must be over 21 to attend.

Thurs, October 17, 1 pm. "Let's Make History Together" Series: *The Lakewood Library: From Humble Beginnings to a 21st Century Facility.* Lakewood Senior Activity Center, 9112 Lakewood Dr SW. Presentation by Becky Huber on the Lakewood Library, which began in a small store front and grew into the largest facility in the Pierce County Library System. **Free to public. Call 253-798-4090 to sign up.**

Tues, November 19, 7-9 pm. *The Legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers / Society Annual Meeting.* Jackie Jones-Hook, Director of the Buffalo Soldiers Museum will present history of soldiers who served in the 9th/10th Calvary Units; Annual Meeting to celebrate Society's 15th Anniversary, elect Board members, list past year's accomplishments and recognize volunteers. **Free and open to the public.** Refreshments served.

December Event. To be announced at a later date.

Unless otherwise noted, monthly programs are held in the Parish Hall of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10630 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, next to the Lakewood Library.

Find us on Facebook (search for Lakewood Historical Society Washington State)
or check our website for more information and current events: www.LakewoodHistorical.org